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April 19, 1960

MEMORANDUM FROM THE UNITED STATES DELEGATION
CONCERNING
TEMPORARY EXPORT OF INTERNATIONALLY EMBARGOED ITEMS TO
SINO-SOVIET BLOC TRADE FAIRS OR EXHIBITIONS

1. The Coordinating Committee has, from time to time, discussed various aspects of the temporary export of strategic items for display or demonstration at trade fairs or exhibitions within the Sino-Soviet Bloc.

2. The most recent pertinent documents submitted to the Committee appear to be the United Kingdom Delegation's paper of October 6, 1959 (Doc. 3706) and the German Delegation's paper of November 27, 1958 (Doc. 3318).

3. The United States authorities, sharing concern such as the United Kingdom and Germany have reflected in the above-mentioned documents, and having recently given the matter further consideration, believe that it would be desirable for the Committee to discuss at an early date certain aspects, identified below, of temporary exports of strategic items to Sino-Soviet Bloc trade fairs or exhibitions.

4. It is not the intention of this paper to re-open the question as to whether Committee approval is or should be required prior to the temporary export of List I items to trade fairs or exhibitions within the Sino-Soviet Bloc.

5. The United States Government does believe, however, that there should be maximum exchange of information and, to the extent possible, common security procedures with respect to such temporary exports of embargoed items as the member governments decide to authorize for display at trade fairs or exhibitions within the Sino-Soviet Bloc.

6. Toward these ends, the United States authorities would propose, for Committee discussion, that with respect to such temporary exports as any member country should authorize to trade fairs or exhibitions within the Sino-Soviet Bloc, the country should immediately inform the Committee of the authorization, together with such information as the following: (i) dates and location of the fair or exhibit; (ii) a brief description, including quantity and value, of each internationally embargoed item involved; (iii) the estimated dates of shipment from and of return to the exporting country; (iv) the conditions under which the embargoed items are to be exhibited -- for example, how they are to be displayed, whether they are to be demonstrated in use, and if so, in what manner, etc; (v) the extent to which control over the items will be exercised by the member country; (vi) the extent to which the embargoed items will be used, if at all, by Sino-Soviet Bloc nationals; (vii) the extent to which extractable technology is incorporated in the items to be exported; (viii) the security safeguards that the member country is taking with respect to the items themselves and to extractable technology incorporated therein.

7. It would, of course, be assumed that embargoed items temporarily exported would be returned to the exporting country promptly at the close of the fair or exhibit, or otherwise disposed of only in accordance with COCOM procedures or agreements. It would, however, be desirable for the exporting country to inform the Committee when the embargoed items have been returned, and for the Secretariat to issue a regular report, say monthly, of unreturned items.

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8. The United States Delegation would be pleased to inform the Committee of the United States policy and practice with respect to such temporary exports, and would of course welcome similar statements from other delegations. On the basis of such statements, such proposals as are made above (paragraphs 6 and 7), and such proposals as other member countries may wish to make, it is to be hoped that mutual understanding and the mutual purposes of the member countries will be advanced.

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